

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 10-15 are all the claims pending in the application. The Examiner allowed claims 1-4 and 10-15 on the basis of Applicant's arguments and amendments submitted on January 23, 2004, and the Examiner's amendment that accompanied the Notice of Allowability dated May 20, 2004 and reflected an interview conducted on May 18, 2004.

Since receipt of the Notice of Allowance and Notice of Allowability, Applicants have identified an error in the allowed claims that has resulted in the Applicants claiming less than they were entitled to claim, particularly in independent claims 1, 3 and 4, in view of the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants are submitting amended claims 1, 3 and 4 and respectfully submit that the change from an evaluation of simply "stepping performance" to an evaluation of "game operation," which is broader in that it encompasses stepping alone or in combination with other game activities, or simply other game activities alone without stepping performance. On the basis of the reasons for allowability of the original claims 1, 3 and 4, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are patentable as well.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

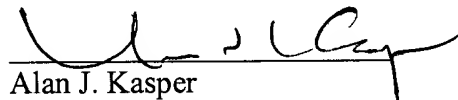
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Respectfully submitted,



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